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Case N .: 98,162-B

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**METHOD FOR REMOVING ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS
FROM A SEMICONDUCTOR SURFACE**

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following space is checked:

☒ was filed on December 8, 1998 as United States Application Serial Number 09/207,546.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s):

| | <u>Number</u> | <u>Country</u> | <u>Day/Month/Year Filed</u> |
|----|---------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

| | <u>Application Number</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> |
|----|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | 60/040,309 | February 14, 1997 |
| 2. | 60/042,389 | March 25, 1997 |
| 3. | 60/066,261 | November 20, 1997 |

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| | <u>Application Number</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> | <u>Status: patented, pending, abandoned</u> |
|----|---------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 1. | 09/022,834 | February 13, 1998 | pending |

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

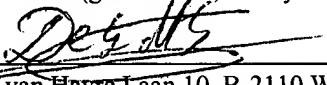
| | | | |
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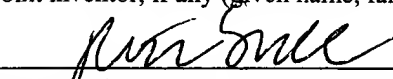
Address all correspondence to McDONNELL BOEHNEN HULBERT & BERGHOFF, 300 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606 USA.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name): **Stefan DeGendt**

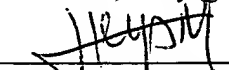
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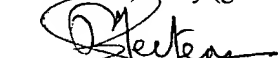
Date: 25 April 1999

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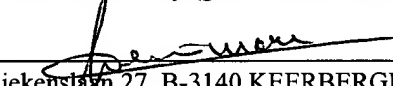
Date: 19 April 1999

Full name of fourth joint inventor, if any (given name, family name): **Paul Mertens**

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Date: 19 April 1999

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